

ENQUIRY *Re.* : NOTICE OF PRIVILEGE MOTION

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, two things I want to raise with your permission. First, there was a privilege motion against the Government and the executive authorities for not allowing Mr. Ramamurti. Mr. Basavapunnaiiah and Mr. Niren Ghosh to respond to the summons of the President and attend the Joint Session held yesterday. Mr. Chairman now the Constitution says . . .

MR CHAIRMAN: You are asking for my consent and you have written to me asking for my consent. I will consider it. Either I would give the consent or I would not give the consent.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Therefore, it is a very serious matter . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not want to be told anything at this stage. You have written to me. You should give me time. I would give you my ruling. Either I will give you my consent or not give you.

ENQUIRY *Re.* : CALLING ATTENTION
NOTICE ABOUT THE OFFICIAL
LANGUAGE ISSUE

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): You consider it because I know that we are not allowed to speak nowadays. They have put the country in flames and they have the temerity to shut it out.

MR CHAIRMAN: What is the point that you want to raise?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We want immediate discussion on the language issue. Here I have given the motion under the rules. In the other House they have the advantage of Adjournment Motion which, I understand, is being considered today.

But in our House we have Rule 176 which enables the House to take up any matter of urgent importance for a short-duration discussion. Therefore, Sir, I request that we should be given opportunity to discuss the issue and also the failure of the Government in handling the situation resulting in a serious situation, police firing and military firing, etc. Why I say this is because it should be done either tomorrow or the day after. Day after we are not meeting. On Monday it should be done. The Chief Ministers will be meeting and this will also be discussed. The Congress Parliamentary Party is discussing it. Two Ministers gave their resignation and withdrew it. Now simultaneously and concurrently the House should be in a position to express its preliminary opinion as to the assessment of the situation and it may also perhaps like to give their suggestions for the solution of the problem. We want a national solution and a peaceful solution of this intricate problem. I do not like, Sir, the Government to shy away from the discussion pending the Chief Ministers' Conference or other deliberations. It is not one-Party matter. All Parties should be taken into confidence. In the papers it is said the Prime Minister will meet the leaders of the Parties and groups. What about the other Members of these groups and Parties?

SHRI ABID ALI (Maharashtra): Sir, if you are allowing a debate, we also should have an opportunity to reply to him. It is only a question of asking for papers. The Rules lay down the procedure. Let him apply and you may or may not allow it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The point that I want to press upon you is this. It might be that that discussion may take place later on. Since we do not have adjournment motion, therefore, the only Rule that we can invoke is Rule 176. If you think that the matter is of a sufficiently pressing and urgent nature and that the Members of Parliament should be, individually and collectively, be given an opportunity to express their opinion with regard to the various aspects of the matter when it is under consideration at a high level.

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]

in the Government, I think you will be well-advised in asking the Government to accept this suggestion and agree to a discussion under that particular Rule. That is what I want to say which I hope, you will consider also. This is not a party issue and I am not speaking in a party strain.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You gave notice to the office at four minutes to eleven and you should give me some time. I will get in touch with the Government and then tell you whether and when any discussion is possible.

SHRI AWADESHWAR PRASAD SINHA (Bihar): Sir, I rise on a point of order. Yesterday the hon. Mr. Gupta raised the issue. The Leader of the House replied to the points. Other questions were put to him and after that your goodself had also said that the matter would be discussed after the Chief Ministers' Conference. So the question does not arise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have received a notice and I am considering it and after consulting the Government I will certainly let you know.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY (Madras): Some hon. Members have been receiving telegrams. One of them I will read . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not think it is necessary. The urgency of the matter is patent.

REFERENCE TO THE ELECTION OF CHIEF MINISTER IN ORISSA

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa): With your permission, Sir, I rise to indicate to the Government that the Chief Minister of Orissa is going to be chosen tomorrow. Therefore it is a matter of urgent importance. The memorialists had submitted . . .

AN HON. MEMBER: Do you want to advise the Members of the Party there?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do you prolong the proceedings? Allow him.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Since the Chairman has permitted, I am going to have my say. The point is that the memorialists had submitted a memorial to the President and instead of the President looking into it, a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet was formed which went into it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What do you want me to do?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: I want that tomorrow's elections should be kept in abeyance; it should not be allowed to take place.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): He missed the point.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: What I say is this. Today in the 'Statesman' I find that two of the Ministers . . . (Interruptions) . . . against whom there were serious charges of corruption, both of them, are contesting for leadership and they are to contest to-morrow. In the meantime we do not have any idea about the C.B.I. report or the findings of the Cabinet Sub-Committee. If the country had the findings of the Cabinet Sub-Committee, then I would have nothing to say absolutely. Therefore, what I would submit to you is that you should ask the Government and the Home Minister to immediately publish the Cabinet Sub-Committee findings and the C.B.I. report so that the country might know about it before they elect somebody against whom there are some charges of corruption.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh): We agree with Mr. Lokanath Misra. Certain charges of corruption were gone into by the C.B.I. and the report is with the Home Ministry. Before any new developments may take place in Orissa,